

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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STADIS/////////
EXDIS ONLY FOR S/P TONY LAKE FROM BLANEY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: THE QUIET CRISIS (LAPWING I)

BEGIN TEXT:

1. AMID THE HEADLINED CRISIS OF THE MOMENT THERE IS ANOTHER QUIET CRISIS THAT CAN BE FOUND IN THE LARGER FORCES AT WORK ON THE WORLD TODAY. IT IS THESE FORCES AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR ALL OUR LIVES THAT I WISH TO EXAMINE WITH YOU.

2. IF WE ARE TO TAKE SERIOUSLY SOME OF THE TRENDS THE EXPERTS FORESEE OVER THE NEXT FEW DECADES, OUR CHILDREN MAY EXPERIENCE A WORLD OF FAR GREATER DANGER AND HIGH RISK THAN WHAT WE HAVE BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO IN RECENT TIMES. I THINK IT IS POSSIBLE TO PREVIEW THE ELEMENTS OF OUR FUTURE IN THE EXISTING DIVERSE ELEMENTS OF OUR GLOBAL SOCIETY. WHAT ARE THESE TRENDS?

3. MOST IMPORTANTLY THE WORLD'S POPULATION WILL GROW FROM ABOUT FOUR BILLION TODAY TO ABOUT 6 BILLION BY THE YEAR 2000. THIS WILL PUT INCREASING
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STRAINS ON THE WORLD'S ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL BALANCES. WE KNOW WE SHALL HAVE SERIOUS FOOD SHORTAGES AND IMBALANCES. WE WILL HAVE TO HUSBAND OUR USE OF SCARCE NATURAL RESOURCES WITH GREATER CARE. OIL WILL BE SERIOUSLY DEPLETED AND WE WILL ALL BE IN A FRANTIC SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVES. FRESH UNPOLLUTED WATER WILL BE INCREASINGLY A SCARCE

COMMODITY; SO, PERHAPS, WILL CLEAN AIR. OUR GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE THREATENED BY UNCHECKED DISSEMINATION OF UNKNOWN QUANTITIES OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES. MORE AND MORE NATIONS WILL HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO BUILD AND USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS OPENING UP NEW QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE THREATS TO THE SECURITY OF ALL THE WORLD'S PEOPLE. THESE AND OTHER FUTURE REALITIES WILL TEST THE CAPACITIES OF EACH NATION AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ADJUST AND TO MANAGE THESE DIFFICULT PRESSURES AND FORCES.

4. NONE CAN EXPECT TO BE EXEMPT FROM THESE DANGERS, NEITHER THOSE OF US WHO LIVE IN ADVANCED INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES OR THOSE IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS IN THE SO-CALLED THIRD WORLD WHO ARE ONLY TOO OFTEN ALSO CAUGHT IN RELIGIOUS, ETHNIC OR REGIONAL CONFLICTS.

5. WHILE FORECASTING IS, AT BEST, AN INEXACT AND OFTEN DARING SCIENCE, NEVERTHELESS THESE PRESENT TRENDS APPEAR TO POINT TO SERIOUS DISCONTINUITIES WHICH COULD UPSET THE FRAGILE INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURE THAT NOW HOLDS THE WORLD COMMUNITY TOGETHER IN A MOST IMPERFECT MANNER. WE SEE THIS TIME AND AGAIN AS WE CONFRONT EXISTING INTRACTABLE PROBLEMS.

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6. SOME THOUGHTFUL WRITERS BELIEVE THAT THE WORLD SYSTEM COULD EXPERIENCE A CATASTROPHIC COLLAPSE IF ENOUGH OF THESE FACTORS APPROACH A "CRITICAL" LEVEL TOGETHER. INDEED SOME HOLD THEY ARE LIKELY TO DO SO BEFORE MANY MORE YEARS GO BY IF WE TAKE NO CORRECTIVE ACTION NOW. WE MUST THEREFORE ASK WHAT ARE THE SIGNS THAT WE ARE CLEARLY MOVING INTO A "HIGH RISK" WORLD.

7. AMONG THE CHARACTERISTICS OR SIGNS WHICH POINT TOWARDS THIS ASSESSMENT ARE:

-- THE POSSIBILITY OF GROWING CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR AS THE LATTER'S POPULATION GROWS ALMOST AS FAST AS THEIR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

-- THE INCREASING SPECTOR OF FUTURE WORLDWIDE FAMINE, BECAUSE OF CROP FAILURES, INCREASED DEMAND FROM MORE MOUTHS TO FEED, AND EVEN POLLUTION CAUSED CLIMATE CHANGES.

-- THE GROWTH OF ENVIRONMENTAL DECAY AND ALTERATION OF OUR LIFE-SUPPORT SYSTEMS ESPECIALLY

OUR ATMOSPHERE AFFECTING THE GROWTH AND HEALTH
OF ALL LIVING THINGS.

-- A POSSIBLE GROWING IRRELEVANCE OF MUCH OF THE
WORLD'S DELIBERATIVE INSTITUTIONS AND PROCESS AND
THEREBY THE BREAKDOWN OF A KEY PART OF THE WORLD'S
ABILITY TO SOLVE ITS PROBLEMS.

-- THE INABILITY OF THE GLOBAL SYSTEM TO DEAL

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WITH SWIFTLY MOVING TECHNOLOGY WHICH AFFECTS
"COMMON" INTERNATIONAL AREAS SUCH AS THE OCEANS
AND OUTER SPACE INCLUDING THE GROWTH AND SPREAD
OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, FISSIONABLE MATERIALS AND
ASSOCIATED TECHNOLOGY.

-- THE GROWING SCARCITY OF ESSENTIAL MINERALS,
NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMODITIES; AND NOT
UNIMPORTANTLY.

-- THE COLLAPSE OF COMMON REFERENCE POINTS
OR VALUES AND ACCEPTED LEGITIMATE AUTHORITY AMONG
SOME OF THE KEY ACTORS IN THE NATION-STATE SYSTEM
AS EXEMPLIFIED BY THE GROWTH OF TERRORISM AND
HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE BY GOVERNMENTS.

8. WHILE ALL OF THESE ELEMENTS ARE SERIOUS CAUSE
OF CONCERN AND WE SHALL EXAMINE SOME OF THEM IN
DETAIL, PERHAPS MOST DISTRESSING IS THAT ALONG
WITH THESE TRENDS, WE ARE SEEING SOME EXAMPLES
OF NATIONAL POLICIES OR ACTIONS WHICH APPEAR TO

REJECT THE ASSUMPTION THAT WE SHARE TOGETHER
THESE PROBLEMS AND THE OBLIGATION TO WORK TOWARDS
COMMON SOLUTIONS.
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9. IF THESE TRENDS ARE PERMITTED TO CONTINUE
UNCHECKED BY THE COLLECTIVE ACTION OF RESPONSIBLE
AND AFFECTED NATIONS, THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT OF
THESE FACTORS WILL BE DEVASTATING NOT ONLY ON WORLD
POLITICS BUT ALSO UPON THE PERSONAL LIVES OF EACH
OF US.

10. TO SOLVE THESE FUTURE CHALLENGES WE MUST MOVE
BEYOND A MERE HOLDING ACTION OR AD SERIATIM FIRE
FIGHTING. WE MUST BE ABLE TO DO MORE THAN JUST
RESPOND TO ONE CRISIS AFTER ANOTHER AS EACH EMERGES
FROM A MODERN PANDORA'S BOX.

11. NATIONS AND GLOBAL INSTITUTIONS MUST MOVE FROM
THE QUICK TECHNOLOGICAL FIX OR TEMPORARY SOLUTION
AND COME TO GRIPS WITH THE FUNDAMENTAL FORCES AT
WORK IN THE WORLD. OUR AMELIORATIVE ACTIONS MUST
GET AT ROOT CAUSES AND TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION
THE MAJOR TRENDS IN CONTEMPORARY HISTORY.

12. THE SOLUTION OF THESE DIFFICULTIES RESTS IN
LARGE PART WITH OUR ABILITY TO FIRST ANALYZE OUR
SITUATION, TO SEEK AND FIND CORRECTIVE MEASURES,
AND ABOVE ALL TO HAVE THE WILL AND COURAGE TO
PERSEVERE TO THE END.

13. ONE ELEMENT HOWEVER IS CLEAR. BECAUSE THE
WORLD OF THE LATE TWENTIETH CENTURY WILL NOT BE
LESS COMPLEX THAN TODAY AND BECAUSE IT WILL
PROBABLY NOT BE SAFER, AMERICA AND OTHER
RESPONSIBLE NATIONS CANNOT STAND ASIDE FROM THESE
OFTEN MALEFICENT FORCES AND PERMIT THE FABRIC
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OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO BE TORN APART.
OUR OWN LIVES AND CIVILIZING INSTITUTIONS WOULD
SURELY SUFFER.

14. LET US NOW LOOK IN SOME DETAIL AT SOME OF
THESE GLOBAL CHALLENGES, EXAMINE THEIR IMPACT,

WHAT WE HAVE SO FAR ACCOMPLISHED AND WHAT WE
YET NEED TO DO.

THE FOOD-POPULATION EQUATION

15. PERHAPS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN
THE WORLD TODAY IS THE UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH IN
POPULATION ESPECIALLY IN THE POORER AREAS OF THE
WORLD. THERE IS HARDLY ANY OTHER FACTOR THAT IS
NOT INFLUENCED BY THIS ALL ENCOMPASSING FORCE.
DEFORESTATION, DESERTIFICATION, SOIL EROSION,
DEPRECIATING ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES, THE NEED
FOR SERVICES AND ESPECIALLY THE DEMAND FOR FOOD
ARE ALL AFFECTED BY POPULATION GROWTH.

16. THE IMPACT ON FOOD ESPECIALLY TOUCHES ON THE
WELL-BEING OF EVERYONE AND ON THE WORLD'S ECONOMY.

17. THE BASIC FACTORS OF WORLD POPULATION GROWTH
ARE:

-- IN MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES POPULATION
WILL DOUBLE IN 40 YEARS OR LESS; FOR EXAMPLE,
MEXICO NOW XXX MILLIONS WILL DOUBLE BY (SUPPLY
FIGURES)XXX. INDIA NOW XXX MILLIONS WILL BE

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XXX BY THE YEAR XXX.

-- URBAN AREAS, BECAUSE OF NATURAL INCREASE
AND MIGRATION TO THE CITIES, WILL DOUBLE EVERY
10 TO 15 YEARS. URBAN SLUMS ARE DOUBLING IN 6

YEARS. FOR EXAMPLE, MEXICO CITY NOW XXX MILLIONS WILL BE XXX MILLIONS BY THE YEAR 2000. BOMBAY NOW XXX MILLIONS WILL BE XXX MILLIONS BY XXXX. RIO (OR SAN PAULO) NOW XXX MILLIONS WILL BE XXX MILLIONS IN 2000.

18. TOO RAPID POPULATION GROWTH ALSO BRINGS WITH IT A HOST OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH MAKES IMPOSSIBLE IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES INCLUDING:

-- NON-EXISTING OR LOW PER CAPITA INCOME GROWTH;

-- DIVERSION OF RESOURCES FROM INVESTMENT IN DEVELOPMENT;

-- MASS UNDEREMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT, WHICH WILL GROW WORSE BECAUSE OF THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING WORKING-AGE POPULATION. (THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORKING-AGE POPULATION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL MORE THAN DOUBLE IN THE NEXT 25 YEARS.) THIS WILL TAKE PLACE EVEN WITH MODERATELY DECREASING FERTILITY; AND

-- BECAUSE OF THE RAPID INCREASES IN THE SIZE OF CITIES WITH THEIR SHANTY TOWNS AS WELL AS RURAL AREAS WHERE MOST OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD'S POPULATION LIVES, GOVERNMENTS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE SERVICES INCLUDING EDUCATION, HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION. THIS WILL CAUSE UNREST AND ALIENATION OF THOSE WHO SEE LITTLE HOPE IN IMPROVING THEIR SITUATION.

19. LOOKING AT THE IMPACT ON FOOD WE SEE THAT WHILE A QUARTER OF A CENTURY AGO THE DEVELOPING WORLD WAS VIRTUALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT IN FOOD PRODUCTION, IT IS NO LONGER. IN 1975 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IMPORTED 45 MILLION TONS OF GRAIN. IT IS NOW ESTIMATED BY EXPERTS THAT BY 1990, UNLESS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAN SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THEIR CAPACITY TO PRODUCE MORE FOOD, THEY WILL HAVE TO TRIPLE THEIR IMPORTS OF GRAIN. DURING THE NEXT DECADE THE FOOD DEMANDS OF THE INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS WILL BE GROWING RAPIDLY AS WELL. INCREASED DEMAND FOR FOOD IN BOTH RICH AND POOR NATIONS HAS BEEN A KEY FACTOR IN RISING PRICES AND WHAT WE MIGHT CALL FOOD-INDUCED INFLATION. DURING THE WORLD

FOOD CRISIS IN 1973 AND 1974, RISING FOOD PRICES
ADDED AS MUCH TO AMERICAN AND GLOBAL INFLATION AS
DID RISING OIL PRICES.

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20. THE ENORMITY OF OUR TASK CAN BE SEEN BY THE
FACT THAT EACH YEAR THE WORLD'S FARMERS AND
FISHERMEN MUST ATTEMPT TO FEED NEARLY 70 MILLION
MORE PEOPLE; THIS IS NEARLY 200,000 A DAY.

21. ONE REAL DANGER, WHICH HAS BEEN PARTLY MASKED
BY RECENT BUMPER CROPS AND FOR WHICH WE REMAIN
LARGELY UNPREPARED, IS WIDESPREAD CROP FAILURES
OVER A NUMBER OF YEARS. SHOULD THE NORTH AMERICAN
GRANARY FAIL OR EXPERIENCE, FOR EXAMPLE, A
NUMBER OF BAD WINTERS OR DROUGHTS AND/OR IF THE
DEVELOPING WORLD WERE SIMILARLY TO HAVE POOR
HARVESTS, THE CHANCES ARE WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO
COPE ADEQUATELY WITH THE RESULTING HUNGRY WORLD.
THIS COULD BRING A CALAMITY OF UNTOLD HUMAN
SUFFERING.

22. AS POPULATION GROWS, THIS DANGER WILL ALSO
GROW. EVEN WITHOUT SERIOUS SHORTAGES, POPULATION
GROWTH AND INCREASED WORLD-WIDE INCOME WILL
ACCELERATE FOOD DEMAND. UNDER THESE CONDITIONS
THE POOR PEOPLE OF THE WORLD WOULD SUFFER THE MOST
SINCE THEY WILL NOT HAVE THE FUNDS TO BUY FOOD
FROM THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. WE WILL ALSO BE
EFFECTED BY THE RESULTING EXTREMELY SHARP PRICE
INCREASE IN GRAIN PRICES. THIS WILL CONTRIBUTE
TO INFLATION AND SPECIFICALLY THE PRICE WE PAY
IN THE SUPERMARKET.

23. GIVEN THESE MASSIVE FORCES IT IS CRUCIAL
THAT ALL COUNTRIES--DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING--

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APPLY THEIR LEADERSHIP, THEIR RESOURCES AND THEIR TECHNOLOGY TOWARDS IMPROVING THIS SITUATION. WE HAVE ALREADY ACTED IN A NUMBER OF WAYS:

-- FIRST, WE ARE PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO MANY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO HELP THEM CONTAIN TOO RAPID POPULATION GROWTH AND HIGH FERTILITY RATES. SOME \$160 MILLION WILL BE SPENT IN FISCAL YEAR 1978 FOR THIS PURPOSE;

-- SECOND, WE HAVE INCREASED OUR ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS FOR THE POORER COUNTRIES; AND

-- THIRD, WE HAVE AGREED TO AN IMPROVED INTERNATIONAL MECHANISM TO CREATE GRAIN RESERVES FOR EMERGENCY USE.

24. YET MUCH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE. ONLY BY SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE POORER LANDS AND THEREBY LESSEN DEMAND FOR FOOD GROWN BY THE MAJOR FOOD EXPORTERS, WILL WE BE ABLE TO ENSURE TO THE WORLD'S POOR ADEQUATE PROTECTION AGAINST THE CONSTANT THREAT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STARVATION OR MALNUTRITION. THERE ARE GREAT AREAS IN SOUTH ASIA, LATIN AMERICA AND AFRICA WHERE MORE FOOD CAN BE GROWN. BUT TO ACHIEVE THIS OBJECTIVE, DEVELOPING COUNTRIES NEED THE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL TOOLS TO DO THE JOB. WE PLAN TO INCREASE OUR HELP IN THIS SECTOR OVER THE NEXT DECADE.

25. IN THE SAME WAY WE PLAN TO INCREASE OUR SUPPORT - BILATERALLY AND MULTILATERALLY - FOR POPULATION PROGRAMS INCLUDING FAMILY PLANNING. SPECIFICALLY, WE HOPE THAT THE CAPABILITY AND THE RESOURCES OF THE UN'S FUND FOR POPULATION ACTIVITIES WILL GROW WITH INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS

NOT ONLY FROM THIS COUNTRY BUT ALSO FROM OTHER DONORS. WE INTEND TO URGE OTHER COUNTRIES TO BE MORE GENEROUS FOR THIS ACTIVITY.

26. IN THIS WAY WE WILL FOCUS OUR EFFORTS ON BOTH THE DEMAND AND THE SUPPLY SIDE OF THE FOOD/POPULATION EQUATION. IN THE END, HOWEVER, SUCCESS ON THIS GREAT EFFORT WILL DEPEND ON THE LEADERSHIP OF THE INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AND ON SUPPORT WITHIN THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES. WE CAN ONLY BE READY TO HELP BUT THE MAIN TASK OF MANAGING THESE INTERRELATED DEMOGRAPHIC AND AGRICULTURAL FACTORS DEPENDS ON DOMESTIC LEADERSHIP AND THE APPLICATION OF MOSTLY INDIGENOUS RESOURCES.

CARING FOR THE WORLD'S ENVIRONMENT AND RENEWABLE RESOURCES

27. CLOSELY RELATED TO GROWTH OF POPULATION IS MAN'S INCREASINGLY MALEVOLENT INFLUENCE UPON HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ENVIRONMENT. WE NOW FIND THAT A VAST DIVERSITY OF PROBLEMS CHALLENGE AND THREATEN OUR WORLD'S ECOLOGICAL SYSTEM. THEY REACH INTO EVERY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA, INTO ALL NATURAL MEDIA AND IMPACT ON PEOPLE EVERYWHERE. MAN'S ACTIVITIES HAVE REACHED THE VERY DEPTHS OF THE OCEANS AND THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF OUR GLOBE'S ATMOSPHERE. IT HAS LEFT DEPOSITS OF TOXIC METALS IN THE ICE OF THE POLAR REGIONS, IN THE FLESH OF FAR RANGING BIRDS AND ANIMALS. IT HAS UPSET THE OCEAN'S LIFE CHAIN AND HAS BROUGHT BLIGHT TO DISTANT FORESTS AND PLANTS.

28. THE IMPACT OF POLLUTION IS FELT NOT ONLY IN THE ALREADY OVER-CROWDED INDUSTRIAL CENTERS OF THE RICH "NORTH" BUT IN THE OVER-POPULATED RURAL AREAS IN THE POORER "SOUTH." IF THE CARBON MONOXIDE IS THE BANE OF AUTO-INVESTED CITIES, SOIL DETERIORATION AND OVER-GRAZING IS ENDEMIC IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' AGRICULTURAL AREAS. ALL, WILL SHARE IN THE POSSIBLE DEVASTATION OF MAJOR CLIMATE CHANGE.

29 EACH PROBLEM AREA HAS ITS OWN UNIQUE ASPECTS BUT EACH SHARES IN COMMON AN ESSENTIAL TRANSBOUNDARY CHARACTERISTIC -- GOING BEYOND THE FRONTIERS OF AN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY. EACH, THEREFORE REQUIRES INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

30. LET ME PRESENT A FEW FACTS WHICH WILL ILLUSTRATE

THE MANY WAYS WE ARE MOVING TOWARDS A CRISIS IN OUR
LIFE-SUPPORT SYSTEM:

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-- IN OUR ATMOSPHERE WE ARE FINDING INCREASING
AND HARMFUL CONSIDERATIONS OF SULPHUR OXIDES,
PARTICULATES, CARBON MONOXIDE, NITROGEN OXIDE,
HYDROCARBONS AND THE VARIOUS HEAVY METALS. ONE
FORM OF AIR POLLUTION - ACID RAIN (CONTAINING
SULPHURIC ACID) - IS CREATED IN ONE COUNTRY BUT
CAN COME DOWN IN ANOTHER HUNDREDS EVEN THOUSANDS
OF MILES AWAY. ITS IMPACT IS ON HUMANS, ON
BUILDINGS AND WORKS OF ART AND ON SOILS, PLANTS
AND AQUATIC LIFE.

-- AFFECTING OUR UPPER ATMOSPHERE AND PERHAPS
OUR CLIMATE ARE A NUMBER OF UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES
OF OUR INDUSTRIAL-TECHNOLOGICAL AGE. FIRST THERE
IS SOME EVIDENCE THAT THE OZONE LAYER MAY BE
DEPLETING BECAUSE OF THE RELEASE OF FLUOROCARBONS
FROM AEROSOLS AND OTHER SOURCES AND PERHAPS FROM
AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS. THE OZONE LAYER IS
IMPORTANT SINCE IT PROTECTS ALL LIVING THINGS
FROM HARMFUL ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT FROM THE SUN.
INCREASED ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT CAN, FOR EXAMPLE,
INCREASE THE INCIDENCE OF SKIN CANCER.

-- YET ANOTHER CAUSE OF CONCERN IS OVER POSSIBLE
CHANGES IN OUR CLIMATE. WHILE SCIENTISTS ARE NOT
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ENTIRELY AGREED ON WHETHER THE EARTH IS GETTING COLDER OR WARMER, THERE IS SOME CONSENSUS THAT WE HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCING SOME ABNORMAL WEATHER AND THAT CHANGES ARE TAKING PLACE AS A RESULT OF MAN'S ACTIVITIES. WHETHER WE SHALL MOVE TO COLDER WEATHER -- WHICH MEANS SHORTER GROWING SEASONS -- OR WARMER -- WHICH COULD BRING DROUGHTS -- THE RESULT WILL MEAN DISASTER FOR FOOD PRODUCTION. THE WARMER TREND MAY BE DUE TO AN INCREASE IN CARBON DIOXIDE CAUSED BY THE BURNING OF FUELS, WHICH PRODUCE THE SO-CALLED "GREENHOUSE EFFECT" PREVENTING HEAT RADIATION ON THE EARTH'S SURFACE FROM ESCAPING INTO THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE AND SPACE. RICH AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN THE US WOULD BECOME TOO ARID FOR SIGNIFICANT FOOD PRODUCTION. ON THE OTHER HAND, SOME SCIENTISTS SEE A COOLING TREND WHICH COULD BRING OVER TIME A NEW ICE AGE. A MAJOR CONTRIBUTING FACTOR TO THIS TREND IS THE INCREASE IN PARTICULATES PRODUCED BY INDUSTRY, VOLCANOES AND AGRICULTURE. THE RESULT OF SUCH A TREND WOULD BE TO SHIFT GRAIN GROWING REGIONS FURTHER SOUTH. THUS, NO MATTER WHAT DIRECTION CLIMATE IS MOVING THE RESULT WOULD BE WORLD-WIDE FOOD SHORTAGES. FINALLY, AS PART OF THESE SHIFTS, WE COULD EXPERIENCE SEVERE WEATHER EXTREMES WHICH TOGETHER COULD CAUSE MAJOR CROP FAILURES AND WIDESPREAD FAMINE.

-- ANOTHER TREND WE ARE WITNESSING IS THE INCREASING POLLUTION OF THE OCEANS ESPECIALLY COASTAL AREAS. WHILE WE TEND TO FOCUS ON THE MORE SPECTACULAR INCIDENTS LIKE THE AMOCO CADIZ SPILL OFF THE COAST OF FRANCE, IN FACT THE BULK OF MARINE POLLUTION COMES FROM LAND-BASED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOURCES -- RIVERS, OUTFALLS AND VIA THE ATMOSPHERE. THIS POLLUTION IS ESPECIALLY SERIOUS SINCE MANKIND DEPENDS ON THE LIVING RESOURCES, MOSTLY FISH, OFF THE COASTS -- AND THESE ARE VULNERABLE TO MANY FORMS OF SEWAGE, PESTICIDES AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE THAT IS DUMPED INTO THE OCEANS. MANKIND'S FOOD, HIS RECREATION AND HIS OXYGEN ARE BOUND UP IN THE SEAS YET THE PROCESS OF DESTRUCTION HAS STARTED AND LITTLE HAS BEEN DONE TO BRING IT TO A HALT.

-- AFFECTING ALL THESE OTHER ECOLOGICAL MEDIA HAS BEEN THE PRODUCTION AND DISSEMINATION OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES. THE LATTER INCLUDE COMPOUNDS SUCH AS

DDT, PCBS, ARSENIC AND ESPECIALLY THE HEAVY METALS. THESE ARE ALL NOW FOUND IN OUR ATMOSPHERE, IN OUR WATER AND EVEN IN OUR FOOD CHAIN. THE PROBLEM IS GLOBAL. ITS IMPACT IS SEEN IN THE POISONOUS CHEMICAL CLOUD OVER SEVENSO, ITALY, IN 1976, IN THE MERCURY IN THE FISH CAUGHT AND EATEN IN MINAMATA BAY IN JAPAN AND IN THE HIGH CANCER RATES IN INDUSTRIAL NEW JERSEY.

31. AS A RESULT OF INCREASED POPULATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND THE EXTENSION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS, THE WORLD IS EXPERIENCING AN UNPRECEDENTED WIDESPREAD MISUSE OF VITAL NATURAL RESOURCES. DEGRADATION OF THE WORLD'S SOIL, ITS FLORA AND FAUNA ARE TAKING PLACE EVERYWHERE. WE ARE ALSO SEEING ACCELERATING DEFORESTATION AND DESERTIFICATION AS MAN BURNS FIREWOOD FOR ENERGY AND FORESTS AND GRASSLAND FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES INCREASED GRAZING IS PUTTING PRESSURE

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ON MARGINAL LANDS. THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN:

-- THE DISAPPEARANCE OF FORESTS IN
CENTRAL AMERICA, THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA.
FOR EXAMPLE, FORESTS THAT ONCE COVERED A THIRD OF
NORTH AFRICA ARE NOW JUST A TENTH OF THEIR
ORIGINAL AREA. CENTRAL AMERICAN HAS LOST NEARLY
TWO-THIRDS OF ITS TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS.

-- DESERTIFICATION IS INCREASING WORLD-WIDE.
MORE THAN 250,000 ACRES OF FARM LAND IN NORTH AFRICA

ARE LOST TO THE DESERT EACH YEAR.

-- SOIL EROSION IS WIDESPREAD EVEN IN AMERICA
AND WORLD-WIDE MILLIONS OF ACRES OF CROPLAND ARE
ABANDONED EACH YEAR.

32. I WANT ESPECIALLY TO SPEAK ABOUT ONE VITAL
RENEWABLE RESOURCE UPON WHICH ALL LIFE DEPENDS --
WATER. THE 1977 UN WATER CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTED
THE INCREASING POLLUTION AND SCARCITY OF FRESH
CLEAN WATER. YET THIS CONFERENCE ONLY STATED WHAT
MOST PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY THE POOR, ALREADY
EXPERIENCE-DROUGHT, RAMPAGING FLOODS AND
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CONTAMINATED WATER SUPPLIES. SAFE WATER FOR
DRINKING AND FOR THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD IS
BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT TO FIND.

33. WORLD-WIDE WATER USE IS EXPECTED TO TRIPLE
BY THE EARLY TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY. YET TODAY
80 PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S PEOPLE HAVE NO ACCESS
TO TAP WATER. MOST OF THE PEOPLE IN THE
DEVELOPING WORLD OFTEN ARE FORCED TO USE
CONTAMINATED WATER. A TOTAL OF 1.2 BILLION
PEOPLE MUST USE UNSAFE WATER SOURCES. FOR THAT
REASON THERE ARE 250 MILLION CASES OF WATER-BORNE
DISEASES YEARLY WITH 5 MILLION DEATHS -- MOSTLY
CHILDREN.

34. WATER IS ALSO VITAL FOR THE WORLD'S FOOD
PRODUCTION. THE 15 PERCENT OF THE CROP-LAND THAT
IS IRRIGATED PRODUCES 30-40 PERCENT OF THE WORLD'S
FOOD. THUS THE AVAILABILITY OF WATER WILL PLAY A
MAJOR ROLE IN THE EXPANSION OF THE WORLD'S
AGRICULTURAL OUTPUT.

35. WHILE THE AMERICAN RESPONSE TO OUR ENVIRONMENTAL
CRISIS HAS BEEN BETTER THAN JUST ABOUT ANY OTHER
COUNTRY IT STILL HAS NOT BEEN AS GOOD AS IT COULD
OR SHOULD. LEADERSHIP, DIRECTION AND COORDINATION
HAS OFTEN BEEN LACKING WORLD-WIDE. OFTEN, FOR
EXAMPLE, WE HAVE NOT EVEN ADEQUATELY DEVELOPED
THE NECESSEARY INFORMATION LET ALONE ASSESSED
ITS IMPACT. THIS COUNTRY MUST GIVE A NEW IMPETUS
TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THESE
ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.

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36. TO THAT END I PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVES
TO ACCELERATE OUR CAPACITY TO PRESERVE OUR FRAGILE
ECOLOGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES:

-- FIRST TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF MARINE
POLLUTION, I PROPOSE AN INTERNATIONAL MARINE POLLUTION
ASSESSMENT CONFERENCE OF EXPERTS TO EXAMINE THE
PROBLEMS OF OCEAN POLLUTION AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS
FOCUSING ON NON-VESSEL SOURCES, I.E., LAND-BASED
POLLUTION WHICH IS SOME 80-90 PERCENT OF THE PROBLEM.
THIS WOULD INCLUDE EXAMINING LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF
MARINE POLLUTION. WE WOULD BE WILLING TO HOST SUCH
A CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON IN (1979 OR 80).
LOOKING AT SHIP-BASED POLLUTION I WILL URGE THE
EARLY RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1973
IMCO MARINE OIL POLLUTION CONVENTION, AND I SHALL
ASK (AT THE NEXT OR AT A SPECIAL SESSION)IMCO TO
LOOK AT ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO CONTROL SHIP-BASED
MARINE POLLUTION PROBLEMS SINCE THE AMOCO CADIZ
INCIDENT HAS PROVED WE STILL NEED TO IMPROVE UPON
THE PRESENT SYSTEM. FINALLY, WE WILL SEEK A JOINT
COASTAL MARITIME POLLUTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN
CANADA, MEXICO AND THE US TO ESTABLISH MUTUAL
COOPERATION AND COORDINATED REGULATION OF SHIPS
WITH CARGOES THAT MIGHT SERIOUSLY HARM THE MARINE
ENVIRONMENT AND WHICH NORMALLY SAIL WITHIN (200)
(12) MILES OF OUR COASTS. I ALSO STRONGLY SUPPORT
IMPROVEMENT IN THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE
MARINE POLLUTION PROVISIONS.

-- SECOND, TO START THE PROCESS OF IMPROVING

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OUR ATMOSPHERE AND CLIMATE I PROPOSE AN URGENT MULTILATERAL INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM AND CONFERENCE TO ASSESS THE LATEST KNOWLEDGE ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE, DEPLETION OF THE OZONE LAYER AND UPPER ATMOSPHERE POLLUTION. THIS EFFORT WOULD DEVELOP A WORLD-WIDE ACTION PROGRAM INCLUDING RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR FOLLOW-UP. WE SHALL ALSO WORK WITH OTHERS TO DRAW UP A CONVENTION TO REQUIRE CONSULTATION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHEN PLANTS ARE BUILT WHICH WOULD CAUSE MAJOR TRANSBOUNDARY POLLUTION. FINALLY, WE WILL WORK WITH VARIOUS CONCERNED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS WMO, WHO AND UNEP TO STRENGTHEN THEIR EFFORTS WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

-- THIRD, TO DEAL WITH TOXIC SUBSTANCES I WILL URGE ACCELERATED EXPLORATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS ON THE CREATION OF A COORDINATED INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM TO IDENTIFY, REGULATE AND, IF NECESSARY, BAN SUCH SUBSTANCES. WE WILL SEEK UNIFORM STANDARDS AND WARNINGS ABOUT THE TRANSPORT AND USE OF SUCH SUBSTANCES USING AS A MODEL OUR TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT OF 1970. WE WILL HAVE THE INVOLVEMENT AND STRONG SUPPORT OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADMINISTRATOR OF EPA FOR THIS TASK. IN THIS CONNECTION WE WILL STRENGTHEN OUR COOPERATION WITH UNEP'S INTERNATIONAL REGISTRY OF POTENTIALLY TOXIC CHEMICALS AND OECD'S CHEMICALS GROUPS.

-- FOURTH, TO START TO DEAL WITH THE DANGERS TO OUR NATURAL AND RENEWABLE RESOURCES I SHALL SEEK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR A COOPERATIVE PROGRAM BETWEEN THE US AND MEXICO ON ARID ZONE MANAGEMENT COOPERATION. I WOULD WISH ESPECIALLY TO HAVE THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND OUR WESTERN STATES IN THIS EFFORT. THE US SHALL ALSO SUPPORT A STRONG LIVING RESOURCES CONSERVATION REGIME IN THE ANTARCTIC AREA. WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WE HAVE ADAPTED A PROCESS FOR EVALUATING POSSIBLE MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF OUR DECISIONS. WE SHALL ALSO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT A 10 YEAR MORATORIUM OR AT THE VERY LEAST A SEVERE DECREASE IN THE QUANTITIES OF WHALES KILLED IN THE IWC.

ENERGY

37. ENERGY IS VITAL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HEATING AND FOR INDUSTRY, YET WE FACE VERY REAL PROBLEMS REGARDING AVAILABILITY, PRICE AND ENVIRONMENT IMPACT. THE MOMENTARY WORLD OIL SURPLUS HAS BLINDED US TO THE MORE FUNDAMENTAL LONG-TERM PROBLEM. THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS THAT THE WORLD'S SUPPLY OF FOSSIL FUELS IS FINITE AND OIL ESPECIALLY IS SWIFTLY BEING DEPLETED. OUR OWN PRODUCTION OF OIL HAS DECLINED IN RECENT YEARS AND DESPITE THE ALASKA FIELDS, OUR RELIANCE ON FOREIGN OIL IS EXPECTED TO GROW OVER THE YEARS.
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38. THE FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES: IN 1975 WE IMPORTED ABOUT 6 MILLION BARRELS A DAY, IN 1977 WE IMPORTED 8.7 MILLION AND WE ARE PROJECTED TO IMPORT BETWEEN 9 AND 12 MILLION BARRELS A DAY IN 1985. FURTHER, US NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION BEGAN TO DECLINE IN 1973 AND THIS DOWNWARD TREND IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE.

39. BUT THE PROBLEM OF ENERGY IS GLOBAL. ITS ECONOMIC IMPACT INCLUDES INFLATION, THE SLOWING OF GROWTH RATES AND THE ACCELERATED SEARCH FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES. WHILE THE OPEC COUNTRIES HAVE BENEFITED FROM THE STEEP INCREASE IN OIL PRICES, THE POORER LDC'S HAVE SUFFERED. INCREASED MONEY FOR IMPORTED ENERGY MEANS LESS IMPORTED FOOD AND LESS IMPORTS OF VARIOUS NEEDED COMMODITIES AND CAPITAL GOODS.

40. ONE UNPLANNED RESULT OF THE ENERGY CRISIS HAS BEEN THE RENEWAL OF INTEREST OF NUCLEAR ENERGY DESPITE ITS MANY DANGERS. THIS SEARCH BY MANY NATIONS FOR OPTIONS OTHER THAN HIGH PRICED OIL HAS RAISED THE SPECTER OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROLIFERATION AMONG POSSIBLY DOZENS OF COUNTRIES LARGE AND SMALL.

41. THE RESULT OF THIS PROLIFERATION CREATES CONDITIONS OF DANGER FOR ALL THE WORLD'S PEOPLE -- RICH AND POOR. THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS ALREADY TAKEN MAJOR STEPS TOWARDS TRYING TO CONTAIN THIS

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DANGEROUS TREND. FIRST, WE HAVE ESTABLISHED
THE IFCE PROGRAM INVOLVING SOME XXX COUNTRIES.
THIS PROGRAM AIMS AT.... SECOND, CONGRESS WITH
ADMINISTRATION BACKING HAS PASSED THE NUCLEAR
NON-PROLIFERATION ACT OF 1978. THIS LAW...ETC.
THIRD, WE ARE SUPPORTING THE STRENGTHENING OF THE
IAEA'S NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS PROGRAM WHICH....ETC.

42. TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM REQUIRES A STRONG
AMERICAN ENERGY POLICY AND PROGRAM. THIS IS WHY WE
NEED A GOOD AND COMPREHENSIVE ENERGY LAW. UNDER
IT WE WILL BE ABLE TO ACCELERATE OUR SEARCH FOR NEW
ENERGY SOURCES AND CONSERVE WHAT WE HAVE. WE
WILL ALSO BE ABLE TO DECREASE OUR DEPENDENCE ON
IMPORTED FUELS WHICH CREATE UNFORTUNATE AND
UNNECESSARY VULNERABILITIES FOR OUR SECURITY AND
ECONOMY.

43. BUT WE NEED TO SEEK FUNDAMENTAL AND LONG-TERM
SOLUTIONS -- BOTH FOR OURSELVES AND FOR OTHERS.
THE MOST IMPORTANT SAFE MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM
ENERGY ALTERNATIVES ARE FOUND IN THE SOLAR AND
RENEWABLE ENERGY AREAS. WHILE WE CAN DEPEND ON
COAL AND OTHER FOSSIL FUELS IN THE SHORT TERM --
PERHAPS FOR A DECADE OR TWO -- WE HAVE SEEN THAT
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THEY CAN SERIOUSLY HARM OUR ENVIRONMENT AND POSSIBLY
CAUSE LONG-TERM CLIMATE CHANGE IN ADDITION TO
SERIOUS HEALTH AFFECTS. WHAT THAT MEANS IS THAT

WE MUST ACCELERATE THE WIDESPREAD USE OF SAFER ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES NOT ONLY FOR OURSELVES BUT WORLD-WIDE IF WE ARE TO BOTH OBTAIN ADEQUATE ENERGY AND PROTECT OUR WORLD'S LIFE-GIVING SYSTEMS.

44. IN EXAMINING AND FORMING OUR ENERGY PROGRAMS, WE SHOULD NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE GLOBAL SITUATION. FOR EXAMPLE, DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAVE A VARIETY OF DOMESTIC ENERGY SOURCES SUCH AS FIREWOOD, BIOMASS, WATER, WIND. YET SOME OF THESE SOURCES, ESPECIALLY FORESTS ARE BEING USED UP FASTER THAN THEY ARE GROWING. OFTEN THE PROBLEM IS POOR EFFICIENCY WHICH REQUIRES IMPROVED KNOW-HOW, TECHNIQUES AND SIMPLE NEW TECHNOLOGY. YET MANY GOVERNMENTS HAVE NOT YET MADE A THOROUGH AND COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT OF THEIR ENERGY NEEDS AND DOMESTIC SOURCES. ALSO FOR MANY COUNTRIES NEWER, LESS COSTLY ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES ARE AVAILABLE BUT MUST BE IMPORTED -- AND THEY ARE SHORT OF HARD CURRENCIES FOR CAPITAL GOODS.

45. WE CAN AND SHOULD RESPOND TO THEIR GENUINE NEEDS. TO DO SO WOULD NOT ONLY SUPPORT OUR POLICY OF ASSISTING COUNTRIES WITH THEIR BASIC HUMAN NEEDS BUT IT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO OUR GOALS OF SLOWING THE RACE TOWARDS NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND DECREASING DEMAND AND THEREBY THE PRICE FOR IMPORTED OIL.

46. IN SUPPORT OF THESE GOALS WE ALREADY ARE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WORKING WITH SOME COUNTRIES THROUGH ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS. TO EXPAND AND MULTI-LATERALIZE THIS EFFORT I PROPOSE WE SEEK TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAM WHICH WOULD INCLUDE OTHER DONORS, IFIS AND LDCS AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS. THIS PROPOSED PROGRAM WOULD ASSESS VARIOUS RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES AND DEVELOP ACTIVITIES THAT WOULD ACCELERATE THEIR USE. FURTHER WE STAND READY TO ASSIST THE POOREST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR EFFORT TO DEVELOP NATIONAL ENERGY ASSESSMENTS. IN THIS CONNECTION WE SHALL SPONSOR A "ENERGY COOKBOOK" FOR USE BY LDCS AND OTHERS SO THAT THEY CAN UTILIZE THE BEST KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AND COSTS WHEN THEY MAKE THEIR OWN ENERGY DECISIONS. TO PUT OUR OWN HOUSE IN ORDER I AM DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT, IN KEEPING WITH THE PRESIDENT'S SUN DAY OBJECTIVES, TO INSTALL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS IN XXX (WE NEED TO LOOK AT NUMBERS) EMBASSIES AND MISSIONS ABROAD. FURTHER, WE WILL OFFER THESE SYSTEMS AS USEFUL "MODELS" FOR EXAMINATION BY HOST COUNTRIES. FINALLY, TO UTILIZE THE BEST AMERICAN EXPERIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THIS FIELD, I WILL CALL FOR A DEPARTMENT OF STATE CONFERENCE ON HOW THE PRIVATE SECTOR INCLUDING NGOS/PVOS CAN ASSIST THE LDCS TO ACCELERATE THEIR USE OF SAFE RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES.
HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMAN NEEDS:

47. WE CANNOT LOOK AT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD WITHOUT LOOKING AT SOME SPECIFIC HUMAN DIMENSIONS WHICH

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CONTRIBUTE TO THE WELL BEING OF INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR SOCIETY. WITHOUT THE PRESENCE OF THESE FACTORS THE QUALITY OF LIFE, INDEED THE HUMANE INFLUENCE OF ALL SOCIETY WOULD SUFFER. THEY ARE A KEY PART OF THE FORCES CHANGING OUR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

48. THE FIRST OF THESE QUALITIES IS THE PROVISION OF BASIC HUMAN NEEDS INCLUDING HEALTH. PERHAPS THE MOST SALIENT AND DANGEROUS FACTOR IN THE WORLD TODAY IS THE GREAT DISPARITY IN WELL-BEING BETWEEN THE VERY RICH AND THE VERY POOR. THIS EXISTS AMONG DIFFERENT NATIONS DEPENDING ON THEIR DEGREE OF DEVELOPMENT BUT IT ALSO OCCURS WITHIN NATIONS INCLUDING DEVELOPING. THIS

ADMINISTRATION IS DETERMINED THAT OUR HELP WILL GO TO
THE VERY POOR WHO NEED AND DESIRE OUR ASSISTANCE THE MOST.

49. A VITAL PART OF MAN'S ABILITY TO IMPROVE HIS LIFE
IS THE ABILITY TO BE HEALTHY AND THEREBY PRODUCTIVE.
BUT THIS QUALITY, WHICH MANY OF US TAKE FOR GRANTED,
DOES NOT EXIST FOR MOST OF THE WORLD'S POOR. FOR THEM
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DISEASE, DEBILITATION AND DEATH ARE AN EVERY-DAY REALITY.
BUT THIS DOES NOT HAVE TO BE SO. AS I HAVE MENTIONED
UNSAFE WATER IS THE PRIME CAUSE OF DISEASE AND DEATH
AMONG THE CHILDREN OF THE POOREST COUNTRIES. YET SAFE
WATER IS EASILY AVAILABLE WITH THE USE OF SIMPLE TECH-
NOLOGY. IN THE SAME WAY A LARGE PROPORTION OF YOUNG
CHILDREN NEVER RECEIVE IMMUNIZATION AGAINST THE MOST
COMMON DISEASES OF THIS AGE GROUP AND DIE OR BECOME
NEEDLESSLY SICK. THIS SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE ESPECIALLY
WHEN WE HAVE THE MEANS TO PREVENT IT.

50. ANOTHER INTRINSIC HUMAN NEED IS FOR KNOWLEDGE. THIS
IS FUNDAMENTAL FOR PROGRESS. IT IS VITAL FOR HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT AND FOR INDIVIDUAL EXPRESSION AND GROWTH.
THERE ARE TWO ASSOCIATED PROBLEMS AGAINST WHICH WE, IN
A LAND THAT PRIZES BOTH EDUCATION AND LIBERTY, HAVE A
SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY. THE FIRST IS THE CONTINUED
PROBLEM OF ILLITERACY WHICH IS ESPECIALLY WIDESPREAD
IN THE POORER COUNTRIES. IT IS A MAJOR BARRIER NOT ONLY
TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUT ALSO TO FULL POLITICAL AND
SOCIAL PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING WITHIN A COUNTRY.
THE EXPANSION OF LITERACY CAN CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE OPEN
AND A FREER SOCIETY. WE SHALL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT BASIC
LITERACY PROGRAMS IN OUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND VIA THE
PEACE CORPS.

51. THE SECOND CONCERN, ABOUT WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND I
FEEL DEEPLY, IS THE TENDENCY IN SOME INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS AND AMONG SOME GOVERNMENTS TO LIMIT THE
ACCESS OF THE PUBLIC TO INFORMATION ESPECIALLY THAT WHICH
FLOWS BETWEEN NATIONS. THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION IS
ENSHRINED IN THE U.N.'S UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN
RIGHTS. YET IN VARIOUS FORA EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO
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RESTRICT THIS RIGHT. SOME COUNTRIES WANT TO PREVENT
MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OFF THEIR COASTS, OTHERS WANT TO

IMPOSE PRIOR CENSORSHIP ON RADIO OR TV PROGRAMS THAT THEIR CITIZENS LISTEN TO, WHILE OTHERS WANT TO RESTRICT A FREE PRESS OR MEDIA FROM REPORTING UNFAVORABLE STORIES ABOUT EVENTS IN THEIR COUNTRY. UNLESS CHECKED THESE TRENDS OVER THE LONG RUN CANNOT HELP BUT HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE FREEDOMS WE ALL ENJOY.

52. THIS PROBLEM, HOWEVER, IS JUST ONE ASPECT OF THE LARGER ISSUE OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND DEBATED EXTENSIVELY ELSEWHERE. THEREFORE, I WILL FOCUS HERE ON ITS RELEVANCE TO THE ENTIRE FRAMEWORK OF PROBLEMS WE ARE NOW EXAMINING. IT IS MY BELIEF THAT UNLESS WE TURN THE TREND AWAY FROM RESTRICTIONS ON THE SPREAD OF INFORMATION AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE ALL OF MANKIND WILL SUFFER INCLUDING OURSELVES SINCE ONLY WHEN MOST OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE GLOBAL RISKS THEY FACE WILL IT BE POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARDS THEIR AMELIORATION.

53. WE HAVE ALREADY TAKEN A NUMBER OF ACTIONS TO STRENGTHEN HUMAN RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD. WE ALSO HAVE DIRECTED OUR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TOWARDS MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE POOREST PEOPLES OF THE WORLD. I WANT TODAY HOWEVER TO ANNOUNCE CERTAIN ADDITIONAL POLICIES AND INITIATIVES WHICH WE WILL UNDERTAKE TO STRENGTHEN OUR COMMITMENT TO THIS AREA:
-- TO RESPOND TO OUR COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE HEALTH OF THE POOREST, TO MEET OUR OBLIGATIONS DURING THE FORTHCOMING INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD AND TO ENSURE A SUCCESSFUL U.N. WATER DECADE WE STAND READY TO ASSIST THE POORER LDCS IN THEIR DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL LONG-TERM COMMUNITY WATER PLANS.

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-- WE SHALL ALSO SUPPORT ESTABLISHMENT OF MODEL REGIONAL TROPICAL DISEASE RESEARCH AND TRAINING CENTERS, WITH OTHER DONORS, IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. ALSO FOLLOWING UP ON THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP, WE WILL EXTEND OUR RIVER BLINDNESS PROGRAM IN WEST AFRICA TO LIBERIA AND STRENGTHEN THAT EFFORT OVERALL. TO SUPPORT A NEW INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EMPHASIS BY THE U.S., I WANT TO ANNOUNCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL HEALTH IN THE DEPARTMENT'S BUREAU OF OES.

-- FINALLY, YOU HAVE MY ASSURANCE THAT THIS ADMINISTRATION WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO SUPPORT FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND THE MEDIA WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM.

AMERICA'ROLE IN SHAPING THE FUTURE:

54. I HAVE SPOKEN TO AMERICANS ABOUT MANY SUBJECTS BUT NONE TOUCH MORE UPON AMERICA'S FUTURE AND INDIVIDUAL WELL-BEING THAN THOSE ISSUES WHICH I HAVE DESCRIBED TODAY.

55. FOR THE U.S. IT IS ABSOLUTELY VITAL THAT WE UNDERSTAND FULLY NOT ONLY WHAT FORCES ARE AT WORK IN THE WORLD, BUT ALSO THAT WE DEVELOP A STRATEGY BY WHICH WE CAN ADJUST OURSELVES TO INEVITABLY CHANGING REALITIES. WE MUST SHAPE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THESE EMERGING FORCES SO AS TO STRENGTHEN THE VALUES WE HOLD DEAR.

56. BUT THIS CANNOT BE DONE IN ISOLATION. IT REQUIRES THE CONSENT AND THE COOPERATION OF ALL GROUPS OF NATIONS. AS NO SINGLE NATION CAN SHAPE THE FUTURE SO NO BLOC OF NATIONS CAN DO SO ALONE. THAT CREATES A DILEMMA FOR US AND FOR OTHERS. THE DILEMMA IS THAT WE MUST FIRST ACKNOWLEDGE OUR OWN LIMITATIONS BEFORE WE CAN BE EFFECTIVE IN SHAPING OUR FUTURE WORLD. IT ALSO REQUIRES US TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE NEED THE COOPERATION OF COUNTRIES WHOSE SYSTEM OF GOVERNANCE AND LAW, HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHICAL ORIENTATION ARE DIFFERENT THAN OUR OWN. IT REQUIRES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT WE NEED THE HELP OF THOSE WE SEE AS ANTAGONISTS ON THE WORLD'S POLITICAL STAGE. BUT THEY ALSO NEED OUR HELP. THEREIN IS BOTH THE DILEMMA AND THE CHALLENGE.

57. WE HAVE HAD SOME EXPERIENCE WITH THIS KIND OF NEW REALITY: WITNESS OUR COOPERATION WITH THE SOVIETS ON STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS, IN DEVELOPING THE TEST BAN

TREATIES AND IN SPACE. WITNESS ALSO OUR COOPERATION WITH CHINA IN VARIOUS AREAS. MUCH OF THIS COOPERATION HAS BEEN THE RESULT OF A MUTUAL REALIZATION OF A COMMON PERIL OR A SHARED PROBLEM. TODAY I AM SUGGESTING THAT THIS PERCEPTION BE WIDENED TO INCLUDE THOSE CHALLENGES WE HAVE JUST EXAMINED.

58. A FIRST STEP TOWARDS TAMING THE MALEFICENT FORCES IN OUR ENVIRONMENT WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY ALL, THAT EACH INDIVIDUAL'S SURVIVAL WILL DEPEND UPON ACCEPTING THE CONCEPT OF A COMMUNITY OF SHARED RISKS AND OF SHARED INTERESTS. WITH THIS PERCEPTION WE WILL MOVE TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NECESSARY NEXT STEP OF ESTABLISHING A PROCESS OR INSTITUTIONS THAT EXPRESS THIS REALITY. WHAT IDEALISM COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH, HARSH REALITY MAY BRING ABOUT.

59. FOR AMERICA THERE MAY BE A SPECIAL ROLE TO PLAY, EVEN IF IT IS NOT TO BE IN A SOLO VOICE. THIS ROLE MAY EMERGE FROM OUT OF OUR HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE AS AN EARLY "DEVELOPING COUNTRY", OUT OF OUR RECENT GLOBAL EXPERIENCE AND PERSPECTIVE AND BECAUSE OF THE FLEXIBILITY, DIVERSITY, AND RELATIVE LACK OF IDEOLOGICAL RIGIDITY IN OUR SOCIETY. IT MAY ALSO BE HELPED BY HAVING WITHIN OUR SOCIETY A MULTIPLICITY OF NATIONALITIES, OF RACES AND OF GEOGRAPHIC VARIETY. NOT UNIMPORTANTLY OUR CONTRIBUTION CAN ALSO COME FROM OUR EGALITARIAN AND DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND SPIRIT. FINALLY, WE MAY BE ABLE TO PLAY A ROLE ALSO BECAUSE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY TECHNOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PROWESS AND CREATIVITY WHICH EXISTS WITHIN OUR SOCIETY.

60. YET ALL OF THESE FACTORS REMAIN LATENT FOR AMERICA HAS NOT YET DETERMINED ITS ROLE IN THE COMING TWO DECADES OF THIS CENTURY. WE HAVE HARDLY EMERGED FROM THE DEBATES AND TURMOILS OVER VIETNAM AND WATERGATE. WE ALSO HAVE BEEN PREOCCUPIED WITH OUR OWN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. THEREFORE I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU TO START WITH ME A DEBATE OVER THAT ROLE. YOU HAVE SEEN WITH ME THE POSSIBILITY OF A WORLD AT RISK. YOU HAVE SEEN WITH ME THE POSSIBILITY THAT OUR CHILDREN WILL NOT ENJOY THE RESOURCES, THE CHOICES, THE FREEDOMS OR THE SAFETY THAT HAS BEEN IN LARGE MEASURE OUR COMMON EXPERIENCE IN THIS COUNTRY. THE DEBATE AND CHOICE ABOUT THE WORLD ROLE AMERICA WILL PLAY DURING THIS COMING GENERATION TO DEAL WITH OUR GLOBAL CHALLENGE MAY BE AS IMPORTANT AS ANY DECISION WE TAKE IN OUR LIFE TIME.

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61. SHALL WE BE THE PARTY OF LIBERTY? SHALL WE BE TRUE
TO OUR ORIGIN AND HISTORY? SHALL WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR
INEXTRICABLE TIE WITH NATURE AND HER LIMITS. SHALL WE
RECOGNIZE THE WORLD FOR WHAT IT IS BECOMING? OR SHALL
WE BURY OURSELVES IN THE SANDS OF TIME -- OSTRICH LIKE,
FEARFUL OF ALL THAT IS AROUND US, FOREVER PRISONERS
WITHIN THE WALLS WE HAVE CREATED FOR OURSELVES.

CONCLUSION:

62. THIS ADMINISTRATION, I BELIEVE, WAS ELECTED BECAUSE
THE AMERICAN PUBLIC BELIEVED WE WOULD COME TO GRIPS WITH
THE SERIOUS AND TOUGH PROBLEMS OF NOT ONLY OUR DOMESTIC
SOCIETY BUT ALSO OF OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY. PRESIDENT
CARTER IN HIS ELECTION DEBATES PINPOINTED THESE ISSUES
FOR THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. HE SAW THESE ISSUES NOT JUST
AS ABSTRACT IDEAS BUT AS FORCES WHICH TOUCHED ON THE
EVERY-DAY LIVES OF EACH OF US. HE UNDERSTOOD THAT A
WORLD OF PROLIFORATING NUCLEAR WEAPONS COULD NOT
PROVIDE REAL SECURITY FOR THE WORLD'S CHILDREN -- HERE
OR ABROAD. HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT A WORLD OF AUTHORI-
TARIAN GOVERNMENTS MEANS NOT ONLY FEAR FOR PERSONAL SAFETY
BY THOSE IN THOSE COUNTRIES BUT ALSO MEANS A WORLD WHERE
LIBERTY COULD NOT BE VOUCHSAFED FOR ANYONE.

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63. I SHARE WITH PRESIDENT CARTER A BELIEF THAT AMERICA DOES HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN KEEPING WITH ITS TRADITIONS. WE HAVE ALREADY STARTED TO PLAY THAT ROLE IN OUR EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS. YET I WOULD BE THE FIRST TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE STILL HAVE FAR TO GO. WE MUST EXPAND AND BUILD UPON OUR INITIAL EFFORTS AND ABOVE ALL WE NEED TO PERSEVERE, TO BE STEADY, REASONABLE AND EVEN HARD-HEADED IN OUR POLICY AND ACTIONS.

64. THERE IS ONE RAY OF HOPE AMID THE DARK CLOUDS OF THESE GLOBAL CHALLENGES. IT IS THAT THERE IS A GROWING CONSENSUS AMONG ALL GROUP OF STATES THAT SOMETHING INDEED MUST BE DONE. THE SOCIALIST STATES, THE DEVELOPING WORLD, OUR ALLIES ALL HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER THESE PROBLEMS AS BEING SERIOUS AND REQUIRING OUR ATTENTION AND RESOURCES.

65. FINALLY, IN THE SPIRIT OF THESE PROBLEMS WHICH I HAVE SHARED WITH YOU I WOULD ALSO ASK YOUR OWN ATTENTION AND CONTINUED CONCERN ESPECIALLY IN YOUR COMMUNITIES, WITHIN YOUR FAMILY AND IN YOUR WORKPLACE. YOUR SUPPORT FOR ENLIGHTENED ACTION TO DEAL WITH THESE PROBLEMS, YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE DEBATE OVER THE HARD CHOICES WE HAVE TO MAKE, WILL BE VITAL IF WE ARE TO LESSEN THE RISKS OUR CHILDREN WILL FACE. END TEXT. RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 11 may 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
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Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
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To: STATE
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